

Data Description for Isohaline/Butler Plate Data Set

General: In order to measure oyster larvae settlement rates (as number of spat) the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries suspends Butler plates in the water column at six stations in the public seed grounds. The sites are monitored weekly during the oyster spawning season from March to October. Surface and bottom measurements for temperature and salinity accompany each measurement, along with a set of meteorological observations. The oyster settlement data are augmented, for salinity and meteorological observations, by sixteen additional stations without Butler plates for use in establishing weekly or monthly isohaline lines in Breton Sound.

Data Column Descriptions:

Station: Map 2003-04-124.pdf shows the locations of the 22 sampling stations. Stations 52, 251, 338, 346, 354, and 362 are the butler plate stations.

Isohaline Sampling Stations			
Station Number	Latitude	Longitude	Butler Plate
002	29° 34' 12''	89° 38' 36''	
052*	29° 35' 49''	89° 38' 33''	Y
251*	29° 31' 39''	89° 37' 16''	Y
338	29° 38' 12''	89° 34' 00''	Y
339	29° 38' 18''	89° 31' 00''	
340	29° 40' 10''	89° 30' 40''	
346	29° 35' 54''	89° 37' 12''	Y
347	29° 36' 24''	89° 34' 06''	
348	29° 36' 42''	89° 32' 00''	
349	29° 37' 18''	89° 29' 12''	
351*	29° 31' 39''	89° 37' 16''	
352*	29° 35' 49''	89° 38' 33''	
354	29° 34' 48''	89° 36' 18''	Y
355	29° 34' 42''	89° 33' 42''	
356	29° 33' 00''	89° 31' 48''	
357	29° 33' 48''	89° 29' 00''	
362	29° 31' 22''	89° 33' 23''	Y
363	29° 31' 24''	89° 30' 48''	
364	29° 29' 54''	89° 28' 46''	
368	29° 29' 54''	89° 34' 03''	
369	29° 28' 00''	89° 32' 29''	
370	29° 27' 41''	89° 29' 14''	
374	29° 26' 45''	89° 31' 37''	
375	29° 25' 36''	89° 30' 24''	

Date: mm/dd/yyyy

Bottom and Surface Temperature: Degrees Celsius.

Bottom and Surface Specific Conductance: Reported as milliSiemens per centimeter.

Bottom and Surface Salinity: Parts per Thousand, calculated from Specific Conductance.

Tide Stage: From 1988 through 1990, tide stages were recorded as “+”, “-”, or “S”, indicating, respectively, “rising”, “falling”, and “slack”. Beginning in 1991, these additional categories were recorded: low rising, mid rising, high rising, high standing, high falling, mid falling, and low falling.

Turbidity: Reported as decimal feet.

Wind Direction: Compass bearing, in degrees.

Wind Speed: Miles per hour.

Sea State: Wave height, trough to crest, in feet.

Number of Spat: Number of oyster spat counted on the Butler plate.

Percent Cloud Cover: Percent of sky occluded.

Work Week: Ordinal weeks, 1 through 53.